



Meeting **Chew Valley Area Forum**

Date **Monday, 27th February, 2017**

Time **6.00 - 8.00 pm**

Venue **Chew Valley Secondary School - Chew Magna**

	Subject		
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6.00pm - 6.45pm - Informal Open Public Session

1.	Welcome from the Chair of the Forum		
2.	Updates: Local Police matters Changes to the waste and recycling services Local Government Boundary commission for England for Bath and North East Somerset Announcement of the B&NES Community Empowerment Fund To note update on the West of England Joint Spatial Plan Chew Valley Children's Centre project		
3.	Any Other Issues		

(15 mins refreshment break)

7.00pm - 8.00pm - Ordinary Meeting

4.	Notes of the previous meeting		
5.	Matters arising		

6.	<p>Theme: 'Environmental Sustainability- tackling future challenges and empowering local communities'</p> <p><i>Jane Wildblood and Micaela Basford from the Council's Corporate & Community Sustainability Team will give a brief presentation about progress being made across the district on environmental sustainability. The team co-ordinate the B&NES Environmental Sustainability Partnership (ESP) across Bath and North East Somerset. There are three key principles: partnership working, community enablement and leading by the example. Jane and Micaela will be looking forward to a discussion about sustainability issues that are of interest to the Chew Valley.</i></p>		
7.	Any Other Business		
8.	<p>Date of next meeting:</p> <p>3rd July – Theme: Health and Housing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet the Provider – 'Meet the provider' Virgin Care will be providing an update on progress so far and setting out their vision. • Meeting housing need in the local community – exploring the various affordable housing options, how local housing needs are defined and what is next for affordable housing in the Chew Valley <p>27th September & 4th December 2017</p>		

Date of Future Meeting:

Monday, 3 July 2017

Chew Valley Secondary School - Chew Magna

Draft Notes of the
Chew Valley Forum
 Tuesday 29th November 2016 at 6pm
 The Library, Chew Valley Secondary School

Present

Name	Organisation Represented
Chris Head	Chair of Forum and Chief Executive, WERN
Cllr Rodney Andrews	Chew Magna Parish Council
Lisa Bartlett	Planning
Mike Bowden	Divisional Director, People and Communities, B&NES
Julie Bragg	Publow with Pensford and Norton Malreward Parish Councils
Cllr Chris Brookes	Stowey Sutton Parish Council
Judith Chubb-Whittle	Stanton Drew Parish Council
Heather Clewett	Stowey Sutton Parish Council
Cllr Chris Craig	Compton Martin Parish Council
Sara Dixon	Locality Manager, B&NES
Cllr Mark Dury	Whitchurch Village Council
Lynne Easton	Chew Magna Parish Council
Cllr Charles Gerrish	Cabinet
Fay Hollister	Avon and Somerset Police
Tony Hooper	Cameley Parish Council
Cllr Richard Ireland	Chew Magna Parish Council
Cllr Ray Jenkins	Whitchurch Village Council
Dr Chris Lewis	Local resident and GP
Cllr Paul Myers	Cabinet
Cllr Rosemary Naish	Clutton Parish Council
Dr Axel Palmer	Compton Martin Parish Council
PC Stuard Peard	Avon and Somerset Police, Beat Manager, North Mendip
Cllr Vic Pritchard	Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health and B&NES Ward Councillor, Chew Valley South
Cllr Liz Richardson	Cabinet Member for Homes and Planning and B&NES Ward Councillor, Chew Valley North
Tim Richens	B&NES
Cllr Tim Warren	Leader, B&NES Council and B&NES Ward Councillor for Mendip
Cllr John Weiss	Ubley Parish Council
Alison Wells	Community Projects Officer, B&NES
Anna Wheeler	City of Bath College Adult and Community Learning

Informal Open Public Session

		Action
1.	Welcome from the Chair of the Forum	
1.1	CH welcomed those present. There were no apologies. CH said there would be a slight amendment to the Agenda to allow the Budget Presentation to take place first, then the JSP Presentation, followed by the AGM.	
2.	Notes of the Previous Meeting and Matters Arising	
2.1	Page 3 CH said there were some slight amendments to the last minutes. AW to make	

	these.	AW
2.2	In terms of Matters Arising, there will be an Assets of Community Value workshop arranged for January to include a guest speaker from Wiltshire. The details will be circulated as soon as possible. If possible, it will be held at Chew Valley School.	
3.	Update from the Police	
3.1	SP circulated a newsletter. He said the numbers of domestic burglaries and shed break ins are down but there is still a need to raise awareness of crime prevention. Speedchecks have been undertaken in conjunction with Highways at Chew Magna. There was some flooding here as well. A copy of the Flood Plan will be sent to force control so teams on duty can access it.	
3.2	There were 2 fatal accidents which are still being investigated by Highways, the Fire Service and Police. CH said these accidents were on the A37 and the Keynsham and Chew Forums have identified specific issues with this corridor. A working group of Parishes has been suggested in the past and perhaps should be considered again. VP said while he is unaware of the outcome of this investigation, other accidents on this road have been due to driver error and drug use, not the road itself. CH said the group would not just consider accidents but wider transport issues – the Belluton road closure is an example, which is the next Agenda item.	
3.2	There was a question on how many people had been caught by the Mobile Speed Camera. SP said he would find out.	SP
4.	Highways Issues – B3130 closure at Belluton and impact on wider Chew Valley	
4.1	<p>There was some discussion on the impact of this with the following points made:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chew has been quiet but Norton Malreward not - Most road closures only for a couple of weeks – this is 6 months - Issues in West Harptree - Little effect on Stanton Drew – most motorists following diversion - Road where Pony & Trap located not great - Lack of information to local businesses and farmers - B&B affected - Is there any way of sat navs being updated with information - Woollard affected when A37 and Belluton closed. No signage to indicate it - was not suitable for HGVs (but this has helped in Norton Malreward) - Forum not given details – could have added local knowledge - Parishes could have notified local businesses 	
4.2	LB said the issues would be taken back to Strategic Director, Louise Fradd.	
4.3	There was a query on whether Forum members should have to check the diversion map, or should the Parish Council do this. CH said some Parishes were contacted but not those that were not included in the diversion route. It would be good to have a mechanism to respond to scheduled works – the Forum only meets four times a year, so something other than this is needed.	
4.4	There was a question on whether the Chew Magna Flood Plan is available on the internet. LE said it is on the Chew Magna Parish Council website (the	

	<p>framework, not personal contact details). Warden Training by the Environment Agency was recently held and this was helpful in advance of the latest flood. They had been on alert for some time. No-one was hurt but two children were taken out of a property. Boards went up quickly and drains were cleared. The village quickly returned to normal. Wardens work with people in advance to ensure they are not putting up boards in the dark.</p>	
4.5	<p>New ideas had been explored as part of the training and wardens hold confidential information for their zones. They have mobile phones specifically for floods so can notify each other quickly. Alerts come from the Environment Agency in advance.</p>	
4.6	<p>CH said he would look into how an early warning system for other communities/properties affected by flooding can be created. There is a need for wi-fi in the school room in Chew Magna to obtain on-line information about flash flooding due to rainfall and the Parish Council is looking into this.</p>	
4.7	<p>CG said he was the Council's representative on the Regional Flood Board – it is now Cllr Richardson. He said Chew Magna is regarded as a leading light in terms of its plan and systems.</p>	
4.8	<p>LR said B&NES is now the lead local flood authority which has two sectors. The lower sector is designed to engage with local communities and they are keen to obtain local knowledge to build a mapping system. The team would be happy to attend Forum meetings to speak.</p>	
4.9	<p>CH said this would be helpful, especially where communities have just one or two flood prone properties. The message will be circulated to the Forum and there will be opportunity to have more strategic discussions as well. One of the reasons the Police are here is the issue of cars trying to move through flood water while wardens were busy clearing drains. What authority do the Police have to close roads in these circumstances?</p>	
4.10	<p>SP said they can on safety grounds. An individual officer can make the decision as long as they advise a more senior officer. Traffic would also need to be diverted. Highways could make more flood warning signs available at the Fire Station for local use. CH said people often taken no notice of these signs because they get left out after floods have passed.</p>	
4.11	<p>There was some further discussion and CH said there are clearly local projects and issues that need to be taken forward, working with the Flood Team on hyper local plans.</p>	
5.	<p>Feedback from the Joint Forum Chairs</p> <p><i>This item was taken after the election of the Chair and Vice Chair in the AGM.</i></p>	
5.1	<p>CH said that Chew Valley is one of five Forums and the Chairs and Vice Chairs meet to share information on meetings and cross cutting themes. The meetings are chaired by Cllr Paul Myers in his capacity as Cabinet member for Policy, Localism and Partnerships</p>	
5.2	<p>CH thanked SD and AW for the support the Forum receives.</p>	
6.	<p>Update Item – West of England Joint Spatial Plan</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 5</p> <p>This Item was given immediately after the Budget Presentation. Full details are</p>	

	contained in Appendix 1	
7.	Any Other Business	
7.1	None	

AGM

		Action
8.	Notes of Previous AGM and Matters Arising	
8.1	These were agreed as a true record. There were no matters arising	
9.	Chair's Annual Review	
9.1	Paper copies were circulated and electronic copies will be sent. CH said there is a work plan in place, which the Forum is taking forward.	
9.2	LR said that the Chew Valley Neighbourhood Plan group will be going to referendum in January or February. By the time of the next Forum meeting, 12-13 Parishes will have a Neighbourhood Plan and access to 25% of CIL funds. The Housing Manager would like to come to the Forum to speak about this and opportunities for affordable housing.	
9.3	CH said we are also working on natural flood defences and taking this to the next stage. Extra funding from the Government for this was announced in the Autumn Statement.	
9.4	A second planning meeting about the Community Hub had to be cancelled because of storm Angus. However, the Forum Task Group has taken forward a lot and has a good plan in place for next year. If there is anything anyone would like to put forward to the Agenda, let us know.	
9.5	At our first meeting next year, we will meet representatives from Virgin Care – the CCG's new provider. There will also be items on affordable housing and the Chew Valley Transport Plan is expected.	
10.	Review and Amend, if required, the Terms of Reference	
10.1	No requests to amend this were received.	
11.	Proposal for Additional Members	
11.1	MB said that on the membership list the Director role has changed.	
11.2	CH proposed that Dundry and Winford should be added as corresponding members of the Forum. This was agreed. He also proposed that Whitchurch and Chelwood be added because of issues around the A37. All agreed to these proposals	S&P
12.	Election of the Chair and Vice Chair Positions	
12.1	CH handed over to SD. She asked if there were any further nominations. There was none. SD received two nominations for Chris Head to remain as	

	Chair and for Tony Heaford to remain as Vice Chair. This was agreed by majority. CH thanked the Forum.	
13.	Partnership Meetings	
13.1	CH said he is the nominated representative for 'your health, your voice' but has not been to any meetings. He asked if anyone else wished to attend. There was no response. CH said we would keep this under review.	S&P
14.	Any Other Business	
14.1	There was none.	
15.	Bath & North East Somerset Council 'Our Budget Challenge'	
15.1	This item was discussed directly after Item 4 of the Agenda. Full details are contained in Appendix 2.	
16.	Date of Next Meeting Monday 27 th February Monday 3 rd July Wednesday 27 th September Monday 4 th December All starting at 6pm in the Library of Chew Valley School There is a gap in meetings in Spring to allow for Parish AGM and APM meetings in April and the Metro Mayor election in May.	

Actions

	Responsible
AW to make amendments to the September minutes	AW
Police to find out how many vehicles have been caught by the mobile speed camera	Police
S&P to update membership list for Chew Valley Forum	S&P
'your health your voice' representation to be kept under review	S&P

Presentation: West of England Joint Spatial Plan, Lisa Bartlett

To view the presentation goto:

http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/sites/default/files/jsp_forum_presentations_chew_valley.pdf

Slide	Comment
Slides 1 and 2 (Title; Critical Issues)	<p>LB said this is not a draft plan, or formal plan at this stage – this is just an extra part of the process as we move towards a draft plan next Summer.</p> <p>Slide 2 shows the critical issues facing this part of the UK. The West of England is a net contributor to the economy, which is unusual outside London. There is pressure on infrastructure which was touched on earlier in the meetings. For the first time, planning and infrastructure is being worked up together. The plan looks at how to manage growth without destroying the environment.</p>
Slide 3 (Working Together)	<p>This is the first time the four Councils have worked together. The plan will be statutory and part of the development plan. It will carry weight planning decisions but won't allocate sites. The JTS is looking at a vision of what the West of England would like if all the necessary investment happens. The price tag is projected s £7.5bn which seems huge but is half the cost of Crossrail – it is ambitious but not unrealistic.</p>
Slide 4 (JSP Strategic Priorities)	<p>This is not just about housing numbers but green spaces and infrastructure as well.</p>
Slide 5 (Transport Vision – Key Principles)	<p>There was a good response to last year's consultation. Provision for public transport corridors, walking and cycling routes were welcome. There is thinking around new technologies as well. There are, at present, a range of issues including historic road networks with all types of vehicles using them. How do we free up the limited space to make public transport and sustainable transport more attractive?</p>
Slide 6 (Transport Vision – Corridor Key Features)	<p>The Light Rapid Transit is an extension of the metro bus programme and feature trams on key corridors. It is a staged approach taking place over several years. The importance of the Port and Airport is acknowledged. There is potential for new railway stations and new motorway junctions on the M4 and M5. The role of Weston-super-Mare as a new economic centre is including. It should help to free up infrastructure too – at present, an accident on the motorway has a wide impact on surrounding road networks. The infrastructure needs to meet with the most sustainable locations for housing.</p>
Slide 7 (Housing Target)	<p>There is a need for 105k dwellings. 66k of this is on sites already committed for development. The light beige area shows the 39k dwellings still to find. Some will be on brownfield in Bristol, Weston-super-Mare and Bath – this will account for 14,600 dwellings.</p>
Slide 8 (Affordable Housing)	<p>Of the 105k dwellings, we think that 32,200 need to be affordable but can only supply 17,100. Is that good enough. There is space on the consultation for suggestions.</p>
Slide 9 (Spatial Scenario)	<p>This is feedback on key points from the first consultation.</p>
Slide 10 (Emerging Spatial Strategy)	<p>Development is focussed on north Keynsham, north of the railway and up to 3,500 dwellings in Whitchurch. This is a high number and fully dependent on necessary infrastructure going in before development, or at stages in the process.</p>
Slide 11 (Transport)	<p>Modelling has taken place to test some of the strategic sites. The focus is</p>

Vision)	on transport corridors. If there was development between Hick's Gate and Whitchurch, this would help to address traffic coming through Keynsham. There would be public transport improvements between Bath and Bristol and a possible Saltford bypass. In Bath, Park and Ride developments have been successful. Something to the East of the City would assist in addressing through traffic. We continue to work cross boundary with Wiltshire as development here is likely to have an impact on Bath.
Slide 12 and 13 (Transport proposals for the Chew Valley)	No strategic sites have been identified in the Chew Valley but there is a list of potential transport improvements.
Slide 14 (New Local Plan)	The Local Plan will be aligned with the JSP.
Slide 15 and 16 (Consultation Arrangements)	This gives a reminder of the consultation dates. We would encourage communities to get involved. It is preferable to respond on-line via the link that will be sent. There will also be a range of public exhibitions and stakeholder workshops
Slides 17 and 18 (Next Steps and Thank you)	Slide 17 shows the alignment. We will consider the comments received and come back next year with the proposed Draft Plan for consultation

Questions and Answers

Q: Will the infrastructure at Whitchurch and Keynsham come first or at the same time as development.

A: Yes – it needs to be demonstrated otherwise the plan will not be sound.

Q: What is happening in Keynsham in terms of transport infrastructure?

A: The connectivity will be improved around the East and South of Bristol. There is potential for a by-pass on the A4 at Saltford. This would free up the main routes for public transport. There is also potential for a railway station for Saltford. More detailed work is needed before the draft plan is produced – it is a vision at present to make future growth work.

If you have further questions, send them directly to Lisa Bartlett – lisa_bartlett@bathnes.gov.uk

Presentation and Workshop: Bath and North East Somerset Council: ‘Our Budget Challenge’ – Tim Richens, Divisional Director - Business Support – Resources, B&NES and Cllr Charles Gerrish, Cabinet Member for Finance and Efficiency

Presenter: Tim Richens

To view the presentation goto:

http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/sites/default/files/our_budget_challenge_presentation.pdf

Slide	Comment
Slides 1, 2 and 3 (Title Slide: Welcome and Aims: Key Messages)	The slide outlines what we are seeking to achieve. We have made good progress – there has been 5 years of austerity measures – but there are still challenges.
Slides 4 and 5 (Update on Position: National LA Funding and Expenditure)	This is a national graph produced by the Local Government Association. It shows the net expenditure of all Councils who are facing pay increase, inflation and demographic challenges. The blue line shows the funding the Government provides through to the end of the decade and this was confirmed in the recent Autumn Statement.
Slide 6	This gives examples of £66bn looks like.
Slide 7 (Reduction in B&NES Govt Funding)	The main source of funding from the Government is the Council’s Revenue Support Grant. This was about £22m last year of a £115m budget. It has already reduced by half over the last four years and will be virtually gone by 2020.
Slide 8 (Scale of Challenge)	This shows the picture in B&NES. We thought the savings equated to £43m but now believe it to be closer to £49m. In this financial year (16-17) we proposed savings of £12m and are on track to deliver this. However, this still leaves £37m to find over the next 3 years. We have identified £14m of this, so there is £23m still to identify.
Slide 9 (Headlines from other LAs)	All Councils are facing these issues and these are examples of related headlines.

Presenter: Cllr Charles Gerrish

Slides 10 and 11 (What are we doing: Bridge the Gap)	This shows our approach to the challenge. Income does not mean increasing charges but raising revenue. The Property Company mentioned last year is an example of this.
Slide 12 (Finance and Efficiency)	The new offices in Keynsham are 40% smaller than the previous ones, so delivering savings. Energy use here has been cut by 90% A move to some digital services will also be more efficient. We are not imposing this but it will be therefore those that find it more effective. We are now taking part in the Government’s Business Retention pilot, which could bring £1m - £2m income. The new Council Tax support system will be easier to use and result in £70k of administration savings.
Slide 13 (Policy, Localism and Partnerships)	We intend to maximise the Devolution deal with further funding likely, including for affordable housing. We recognise the importance of Parish Councils and communities and will work to improve our relationship with them.
Slide 14 (Adult	This is our biggest expenditure. It is not just about the elderly but young

Social Care and Health)	people (not children but around 20 years of age). Some have complex needs and their care can be as much as £2,500 a fortnight. The Forum was consulted on 'your care, your way' last year. We are looking to maximise the role of GP practices and focus on preventative services.
Slide 15 (Economic Development)	The Enterprise Zones are designed to encourage businesses with the Government paying their Business Rates for the first few years. The North and South Quays developments should generate 9,000 jobs over ten years.
Slide 16 (Homes and Planning)	Consultation on the JSP is taking place at present. The Council is working with the YMCA to create homes for young people that have been in care. We hope to deliver more affordable housing in rural areas.
Slide 17 (Transport)	Transport is being looked at alongside the JSP. The investment will cost £7.5bn over ten years. It is needed to meet the growth taking place. Devolution will help with this. We are working with the Government on an A36/A46 link to reduce traffic coming through Bath. The introduction of LED street lighting has helped reduce costs.
Slide 18 (Community Services)	Income is being achieved through events – the increase in wedding venues has been a success. The Libraries Review is taking place – we do not want to lose facilities but involve communities more – there could be hubs with computers for example. Leisure improvements are being made in Bath and Keynsham in line with people's modern aspirations. The Planning Application is now on the Council's website. There will be a revised collection pattern for refuse as the Forum were advised at their last meeting, which should reduce the amount going to landfill.
Slide 19 (Children's Services)	Connecting Families has been successful with more families in work and children at school. There has been a review of home to school transport and personalised budgets have led to significant savings. We are very grateful to the teachers in B&NES as we have very successful schools.
Slide 20 (Big Picture)	This outlines the key issues.

Presenter: Tim Richens

Slide 21 (Key Messages)	This is a resume of what you have heard.
Slides 22 and 23 (Working in Groups: What do you think)	We welcome your views – you may be aware of what has worked well elsewhere. Working in groups, we would like you to discuss what you have heard. The three points on slide 22 will help guide discussions.

Points Raised during the presentation

- Q: With reference to the National Local Authority Funding and Expenditure slide, is the 30% an annual increase?
- A: It is £10bn over the next 3 years, so 10% per annum. The graph is just an illustration.
- Q: What is the Council's total budget?
- A: £230m excluding schools. The schools' budget is ring-fenced.
- Q: In the Chancellor's Autumn Statement, a 100% rural rate relief was announced. Would this apply in Chew Valley?
- A: Unfortunately, the rural parts of the district are not regarded as sufficiently rural for this scheme.

- Broadband is still a key issue for rural communities
- There are very few street lights in the Chew Valley but we still contribute to costs.

Flip Chart Notes

No feedback was given at this Forum meeting

Group 1

- Isolation and exclusion of disadvantaged groups and individuals
- Lack of preventative services
- Bus services – rural transport network
- Volunteer deficit – but needs more people
- Employment opportunities

Group 2

- More efficient join up with local authority neighbours (eg gritters from B&NES and Bristol)
- Use local knowledge and Parish Councils more – hedge-cutting

Group 3

- Will isolated/vulnerable feel the most impact
- There are things Parish Councils can deliver more cheaply eg road wardens to repair minor potholes (Devon CC), link to street sweeper scheme
- Hedge cutting – access to farmers

Group 4

- Reduction precept – making it spread further
- Pressure on volunteers
- Fewer volunteers coming forward
- Reduction in funding for highways for our area
- Reduction in Planning Services
- Transition planning – does this need to be better to project costs and plan different to meet needs
- Devolution of certain critical services such as flood response to local communities
- LEA downsize as academies grow (support Chew Valley Academy)
- Highways Warden
 - Potholes/mending signs
 - Clearing pavements, gullies, leaves
- Training for volunteers and functions and keep it on-going
- Training on drawing down of funding and grant bidding
- For Forum Topic?
 - How to deal with Parish Councils expanding their portfolio
 - How to devolve 'activities' to Parish Councils and other stakeholders

Group 5

- Concern about 'Digital Divide' – for some an IT solution to contacting the Council is a turn off not an attraction
- Invest in behaviour change – especially in regard to recycling – how to change attitude to just stuffing everything in a black bin-liner as the 'path of least resistance'. What 'carrots' reward good recycling behaviour. What 'sticks' penalize lazier behaviour?
- Housing for 'people at the bottom of the pile' is great BUT do not forget to invest in the services (existing and new) that those people need eg the GP services that the Council's Health & Social Care plans are predicated on. Infrastructure isn't just roads
- Your Care, Your Way – 'maximise the care out of GP surgeries'. Beware of unintended consequences. B&NES GPs already feel that they're pushed beyond capacity. Force us into doing more work and there will be a number of retirements and resignations from an already demoralized workforce. Primary Care is the most cost-effective way to deliver services but needs investment and this might have to come at the expense of more glamorous Secondary Care funding if you want it to work.

Group 6

- Treating older residents in own homes – district nurse
- Use school library for community
- Transport village to village and to Keynsham/Norton Radstock
- Land Banking penalised through Council tax

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